



For Immediate Release: January 28th, 2016

Woman Arrested in Rockville Animal Cruelty Case

Charges Brought Against Homeowner Who Had 66 Dogs in Home

Rockville, MD – On January 27th, the Montgomery County Department of Police, Animal Services Division charged Katherine Ting Tiong, age 47, of the 13000 block of Glen Mill Road, Rockville, with 66 misdemeanor counts of animal cruelty. Tiong was arrested, processed, and later released on bond for the January 1st police search of the property that resulted in officers removing 66 dogs from inside the home.

Each charge of animal cruelty carries a penalty of up to 90-days jail-time and/or a fine of \$1,000.

Tiong admitted to operating an animal rescue named Forever Homes Animal Rescue, Inc. A majority of the dogs in Tiong's home came from shelters located in the northeast region of the U.S. Most of the dogs were contained in soiled crates, and were suffering from a variety of ailments – some were pre-existing conditions but many were a result of the neglect. Numerous dogs had matted, urine-soaked fur, eye and ear infections, and additional untreated illnesses. Three dogs were in such severe state of medical decline that they were euthanized at the shelter. One dog died of an unknown cause but a necropsy will be performed to determine the exact cause of death.

Several of the dogs have been successfully placed into homes but many still remain at the shelter. Some of the remaining dogs have additional medical or behavioral needs and will require adopters who are able to invest time and resources to help them manage these issues. "In the past, we have seen Montgomery County residents really step up and provide loving homes for our 'special needs' animals," said Kate Walker, Shelter Manager. Potential adopters are encouraged to visit the Montgomery County Animal Services and Adoption Center at 7315 Muncaster Mill Road, Derwood, MD 20855.

"A lot of time and effort has gone into this case, both with examining the evidence and in caring for the animals," said Thomas Koenig, Director of the Animal Services Division. "We are incredibly thankful for our partnership with MCPAW, who has provided much needed financial support, as well as the many rescue partners and area shelters that have offered their assistance."

About the Department of Police, Animal Services Division:

The Department of Police, Animal Services Division, provides high-standard sheltering and care to the homeless, abused, and neglected animals in our community and ensures the safety and welfare of the county's citizens. We operate the County's only open-admissions, municipal shelter. Through adoptions, education, outreach, and more, the Animal Services Division serves as a critical community resource to promote and advocate for responsible pet care. Animal Services Officers are on duty seven days a week to address citizen complaints and respond to animal emergencies 24 hours a day. For more information, visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/asd

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